

**Law Enforcement Division  
Bi-Weekly Field Report  
8/3/14 – 8/16/14**

**DISTRICT 1**

CO Jason Wicklund and PCO Joshua Russell spent the afternoon on Lake Gogebic. Several boats were checked and verbal warnings were given for a variety of marine related issues. One group of individuals was also ticketed for fishing without licenses.

COs Jason Wicklund and Brian Bacon, along with PCOs Joshua Russell and Jeremy Beavers, were on their way to a marine event when they observed two ORVs riding double and operating down the roadway. A traffic stop was conducted and it was also determined that both ORVs were unregistered. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jason Wicklund and Brian Bacon, along with PCOs Joshua Russell and Jeremy Beavers assisted local law enforcement with the annual Waterfront Festival held in Menominee. The COs gave over a dozen warnings, including bow riding, no navigational lights, and improper registration. The COs also issued a ticket to the operator of a personal watercraft (PWC) for failing to have an observer while pulling a tuber.

COs Jason Wicklund and Brian Bacon, along with PCOs Joshua Russell and Jeremy Beavers observed an out of state vessel on Lake Michigan with five individuals riding on the bow. Contact was made with the vessel and it was immediately determined that the occupants on board were underage and drinking. The COs boarded the vessel and conducted sobriety and breath tests on the occupants. Three tickets were issued for minor in possession of alcohol, as well as enforcement action for bow riding and contributing to a delinquency of a minor.

Lt. Terry Short, Cpl. Shannon VanPatten and CO Marvin Gerlach worked a marine patrol during Menominee's Waterfront Festival. Contact was made with a subject operating a 65 foot boat that was not displaying any registration. The subject claimed he did not have to register the vessel because it was federally documented; however, the subject could not produce any documentation paperwork or any other paperwork regarding the boat. The subject was ticketed for operating an unregistered vessel. Additional tickets were written to other boats during the festival for operating unregistered vessels and failure to provide sufficient personal flotation devices (PFDs).

CO Dave Painter stopped an ORV for riding double. The operator and passenger also had no helmets and the ORV was unregistered. Enforcement action was taken.

**DISTRICT 2**

CO Jeff Panich and PCO Chris Reynolds, while on marine patrol, had a very busy evening during the patrol. Several tickets were written; most notably were three PFD

violations in which the operators of the vessels were short several PFDs and did not have any idea how many lifejackets were on board their vessels.

CO Jeff Panich and PCO Chris Reynolds, while on marine patrol were observing a busy area of the lake just after dark and heard a boat coming at a high rate of speed. The vessel just missed a marker buoy and did not have any navigation lights on. The boater was eventually caught up to and stopped as they were heading for a shallow reef. A ticket was issued for the violation.

During a marine patrol on the Lower St. Mary's River, CO Kevin Postma and PCO William Brickel contacted four subjects in a vessel fishing at the powerhouse. Two of the subjects stated that they were not fishing but were just along for the ride. Later, the COs finished the marine patrol on the river and headed to the powerhouse. While on shore, at the powerhouse, it was verified that one of those subjects was fishing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Panich and PCO Will Brickel conducted a late evening marine safety patrol. As the two COs approached the boat launch, they observed a group of four men pulling a boat from the water. A brief discussion about fishing transpired at which time an odor of intoxicants was detected from the men who appeared younger than the legal age. After an ID check of the men, they were determined to be underage and had consumed alcohol. During the interview process, a bag of prescription narcotics was located in the back seat of the vehicle in question, and the prescription was not in the name of any of the subjects. COs Panich and Brickel placed one man under arrest for the possession of prescription narcotics, and enforcement action was taken with the underage driver of the vehicle.

CO Panich and PCO Reynolds were conducting a marine patrol in the Les Cheneaux islands during an annual boat show. The COs conducted multiple inspections throughout the day. During their checks they assisted several disabled boats. One boat had driven through a flock of floating geese and upon contact the operator stated, "They weren't people, just geese". Enforcement action was taken. The COs worked into the night and made several stops for vessels not having proper navigation lights on their boats. They also assisted local deputies in arresting and lodging a boater who was under the influence of alcohol.

While working a shining patrol CO Mike Hammill observed a pickup truck shining fields from a distance after legal hours. CO Hammill maneuvered his patrol vehicle in for a quick contact. Upon contacting the occupants in the vehicle, a loaded .243 rifle was discovered. Enforcement action taken.

During an early morning fish patrol CO Mike Hammill prepared his vessel for launch only to discover a flaming bonfire blocking the boat ramp. CO Hammill investigated the scene and located sign posts that had been pulled from the ground and broken along with many beer cans. While investigating further, a lost cell phone was located which led to the responsible party. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Michael Evink received a complaint of litter on State land in the Seney area. Officer Evink was able to locate a pile of garbage with more than enough personal information in it to locate the source. Officer Evink located the owners of the litter and enforcement action was taken.

CO Michael Evink assisted Michigan State Police (MSP) troopers with a possible kidnapping situation in Schoolcraft County. Officer Evink helped conduct the traffic stop in which one individual was held against their will after an assault is believed to have occurred. Prior to the traffic stop the complainant had locked herself in a bathroom at a store where she was able to call 911. She was persuaded back into the vehicle until the vehicle was intercepted by officers. One person was taken into custody and the complainant was taken for medical assistance.

### **DISTRICT 3**

COs Eric Bottorff, Nick Torsky and PCO Richard Cardenas worked a complaint of a subject taking overlimits of trout from one of the special regulation trout lakes in the Pigeon River Country State Forest. After several attempts, the COs located the suspect fishing on the lake. He had an overlimit of trout, was using prohibited bait, was camping in a no camping area and had extensive litter around his campsite. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Kelly Ross and PCO David Schaumburger made a stop on an ORV without working lights and whose operator was not wearing a helmet. When the ORV was stopped it was also found to not have any registration. The operator was ticketed for no helmet and was warned for the other violations.

PCO Matthew Page and CO Mark DePew responded to a complaint of a large fire which was comprised of illegal materials. The fire was approximately 100 feet in circumference; the individual who lit the fire had been previously ticketed for illegally burning vehicles and was issued a second ticket for burning illegal materials.

PCO Matthew Page and CO Mark DePew responded to a complaint of an ORV accident on state land where an unsupervised 15 year old operator crashed a four-wheeler. The father of the driver was contacted and ticketed for allowing a youth to operate unsupervised.

### **DISTRICT 4**

COs Sam Koscinski and Steve Converse recently received warrants on an investigation they conducted into timber trespass on public lands in Wexford County this past spring. The investigation revealed that two people were illegally taking and selling fuelwood from state land. While investigating the timber trespass, COs also discovered that three people had illegally taken deer during last hunting season. The Wexford County Prosecutor authorized charges on the timber trespass and two deer violations. COs then contacted and arrested the suspects on the warrants.

COs Sam Koscinski and Steve Converse received a complaint of a 62 year old lost while hiking on the NCT (North Country Trail) in Wexford County. The complaint came in after dark and COs responded to the area. With the aid of a cell phone GPS COs were able to walk in and locate the lost hiker.

CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Rob Freeborn were working the Muskegon River Task Force in Newaygo County when they encountered nine individuals who had been swept off their tubes, four of whom were still stuck in deadfalls where the water was deep and had a fast current. The COs were able to position their boat among the deadfalls in such a way that the tubers were able to let go of the debris and let the current carry them toward the patrol boat where they were lifted to safety. The four individuals were then transported to the shallow side of the river. CO Publiski and PCO Freeborn then returned to the deep side of the river and transported the remaining five individuals to safety.

CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Rob Freeborn were working the Muskegon River Task Force in Newaygo County and issued several tickets for no PFDs. The COs had one subject try to argue that the pillow he had in his canoe would suffice as a PFD. Three other subjects in another canoe argued that a tree stand seat and two bleacher seats would float. PCO Freeborn explained the PFD law to the boaters and tickets were issued for the safety violations.

CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Rob Freeborn were working on Hamlin Lake in Mason County when they observed two young individuals who appeared to be dancing on their pontoon boat. As the COs approached the boat they observed the individuals hide what appeared to be beer bottles and quickly begin fishing. Upon contact, the COs located the beer bottles that the subjects had set down and asked the two subjects for fishing licenses, and asked if they were both 21 years old. Both subjects stated they were 21 and advised that they had left their fishing licenses back at camp. When asked for their dates of birth, neither subject could do the math quickly enough and gave birth dates that made them 19 years old. After further investigation it was determined that both subjects were only 18 years old and that they had not purchased fishing licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Rob Freeborn were working Silver Lake Sand Dunes in Oceana County where they issued several tickets for subjects drinking alcohol inside the park. The COs also caught several individuals trying to sneak alcohol inside the park, as well as failing to transfer the titles of their ORVs.

CO Brian Brosky, Mason County, is conducting an investigation where the holder of a deer crop damage permit allowed a non-designated shooter to take a deer on his property. The permit holder assisted the shooter with the transportation, processing and dissemination of the venison. The incident has been turned over to the Prosecutor for warrants for an illegal deer.

CO Brian Brosky and PCO Rob Freeborn were working a river in Manistee County when they encountered a subject in possession of a snagged salmon. The angler admitted that the fish was hooked in the head and that he just didn't release it. The angler was issued a ticket for retaining a foul hooked fish.

CO Brian Brosky investigated an incident where the owner of a parcel of property in Mason County was having ORV trespass issues. The suspect in this incident was warned by the owner on numerous occasions to stay off of the property. The suspect continued to drive his ORV across the landowner's property, but only when he could ensure that the owner was gone. The landowner placed a game camera out and caught the subject in the act. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky came across two dirt bikes operating on the roadway. After realizing that CO Brosky was a law enforcement officer, both ORVs turned around and attempted to evade him. The second of the two operators immediately slowed and made a decision to stop. CO Brosky contacted the operator only to find that he was currently suspended. Prior to arresting and lodging that operator, CO Brosky was able to get the name and address of the first individual who failed to stop. A few days later CO Brosky received a call from the first operator, who was also suspended. It seems he had concerns that he was going to go to jail. Warrants are being sought for flee and elude as well as suspended operation on that individual.

CO Steve Converse was working a routine fish patrol on Lake Michigan when he encountered one angler trolling with six lines. During that same patrol, CO Converse pulled up to a vessel where both anglers were in the back of their vessel reeling up lines. One angler was reeling in a fish and the other was frantically trying to get his line in although it didn't have a fish on it. When CO Converse asked them how many lines they had out, they responded "only six." CO Converse quickly informed them that their math did not add up as they still had seven lines in the water even after reeling up two. Enforcement action was taken and both anglers were issued tickets.

COs Steve Converse, Sam Koscinski, Sean Kehoe, and Rich Stowe all assisted with the investigation of a murder that occurred in Buckley. The COs were asked to help secure the crime scene and set up a perimeter, as the male suspect had fled after killing his girlfriend. Officers from several counties searched for the suspect who was located several hours later and apprehended.

COs Steve Converse and Sam Koscinski assisted the MSP with a search in Wexford County. The COs attempted to locate two individuals who had fled on the troopers into the woods. The suspects left behind a vehicle with drugs and meth components. The subjects were not located but positive identifications are known.

CO Ben Shively of Oceana County was first on scene of a personal Injury accident where a motorcycle was going too fast around a corner and went into a slide and collided with an SUV travelling in the opposite direction. Both occupants of the motorcycle were thrown from the bike and the rear passenger sustained chest and back

injuries. CO Shively secured the scene and provided first aid until Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and a deputy arrived on scene.

CO Brian Lebel and PCO Brett DeLonge were working a marine patrol on the Muskegon River in Mecosta County when contact was made with two anglers. Upon inspecting the live well, two walleye fillets were discovered. The anglers admitted that the fish was two inches short but they decided to fillet it and discard the carcass in the river. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lebel and PCO Brett DeLonge were working the Silver Lake Sand Dunes and responded to assist a park ranger who had contact with an individual who had a warrant for his arrest. PCO DeLonge placed the subject in custody while the individual continued to provide excuses. Finally, the subject admitted to using his friend's ORV safety certificate and name because he had a suspended driver's license. After a lengthy investigation the subject's proper identification was revealed. The subject was lodged in the jail for operating ORV while suspended.

CO Brian Lebel and PCO Brett DeLonge were working the Silver Lake Sand Dunes and contacted a subject violating several operation rules. The subject could not provide a driver's license and stated to PCO DeLonge that he was not going to give him his name. PCO DeLonge politely advised the individual the legality of providing identification and the subject complied. The subject was upset because he had been arrested the day prior for a drug charge and did not want another charge for the weekend. Enforcement action was taken on the operation violations.

CO Mike Wells of Newaygo County was patrolling Sylvan Lake and contacted the operator of an unregistered vessel. The 2008 vessel was purchased new and never registered. When CO Wells inquired why the vessel was never registered the owner stated, "Because I have never seen you guys out here before." Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Wells of Newaygo County was working the Muskegon River Task Force and observed a group of tubers pull over and take a break on an island. CO Wells used his binoculars to conduct surveillance of the group and witnessed one individual pour the contents of one beer into another container and then pitch the empty can into the weeds along the shoreline. CO Wells contacted the individual and issued a ticket for litter.

CO Troy VanGelderren and PCO Bobby Watson responded to a fire that had escaped in Oceana County. The individual responsible for setting the fire disappeared when noticing the Officers arrive on scene and in the commotion of putting out the fire. The responsible person's name was obtained and it was discovered that he had a valid state wide warrant for his arrest. The COs returned to the scene a few days later and were able to locate the individual and arrest him.

## **DISTRICT 5**

CO Steve Lockwood was working marine patrol when he checked two anglers fishing from a row boat. The ensuing investigation led to one of the subjects being ticketed for fishing without a license and the second subject being lodged in jail for an outstanding arrest warrant.

CO Steve Lockwood responded to a report of a PWC accident on a lake in Gladwin County. Reports from bystanders described two subjects operating in a careless manner. In addition, the accident occurred after the legal operating hours for PWCs, and one of the subjects did not have a boater safety certificate as required. The investigation will be turned over to the prosecutor's office for further action.

CO Nick Atkin was on marine patrol when he contacted a single angler trolling with six lines. As the CO approached he asked the angler how many lines he was trolling with. The angler advised "too many". Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Atkin contacted the operator of a vessel not showing a valid registration decal. The owner of the vessel advised that it was a Canadian vessel and could not produce any documentation. The owner also advised that he bought the vessel in 1985 and had not updated the registration since then. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason McCullough was working marine patrol on Houghton Lake when he checked a group of vessels fishing in close proximity to each other. The anglers on the vessels were all from the same group. Two of the vessels contained several subjects who were fishing without licenses and the anglers on the third vessel were in possession of undersized walleye. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Olsen and PCO Andrew Sutzko assisted the MSP with a suicidal subject who ran into a wooded area. After finding some foot tracks in the mud, the COs located the highly intoxicated male subject, who agreed to see a mental health professional at the local hospital.

CO Brian Olsen and PCO Andrew Sutzko assisted local police officers and EMS personnel with locating a subject involved in an ORV accident. The subject suffered a leg injury and was brought to a local hospital for treatment.

CO Jon Warner and PCO Michael Mansell were dispatched to the Au Sable River on a rescue involving a highly intoxicated subject with a badly broken ankle. Due to the conditions in the area, they were the only law enforcement unit that could reach the scene. After locating the subject, the COs used some ingenuity by borrowing a paddleboard to help stabilize and load the patient into their patrol truck. He was transported out to waiting EMS personnel and eventually treated at the local hospital.

CO Jon Warner and PCO Michael Mansell responded to a medical emergency on the upper Au Sable River. A group of kayakers set up camp along the river and were using a machete to clear brush and make firewood. One of the subjects sliced open his right calf and the other kayakers could not get the bleeding to stop. After a few hours, they

eventually called for help. CO Warner and PCO Mansell eventually arrived on scene a few hours after dark. They loaded the injured subject into their patrol boat and transported him to EMS personnel for treatment.

CO Warren MacNeill responded to a complaint of an intoxicated subject trying to launch his boat on Hubbard Lake. The subject was also operating on a suspended driver's license and the vehicle had an improper plate. During the investigation, he became resistive toward CO MacNeill and was taken into custody. CO MacNeill had a blood draw conducted and a warrant is being sought for third offense felony operating while intoxicated.

While patrolling state land in Missaukee County for illegal bear baits, CO Matt Liestenfeltz located a baited area utilizing a 55 gallon drum. CO Liestenfeltz continued to check this area for about a month until he located a local houndsman's residence that had the same exact drums located in the front yard. CO Liestenfeltz discovered matching splattered paint on both the drum located on state land and the drums located in the suspect's front yard. Enforcement action was taken for baiting prior to August 19<sup>th</sup>.

CO Mike Hearn and PCO Knights assisted local deputies with a fleeing and eluding complaint on an ORV. On the date of this incident, the two suspects had been missing since 2:00 a.m. When a deputy made contact with them; they fled on an ORV. After getting a name from the suspect's girlfriend, it was determined the suspect had a suspended driver's license. The COs were able to track and locate one of the suspects and the ORV. The other suspect, who was the original driver, was later arrested by the deputies for fleeing and eluding.

## **DISTRICT 6**

CO Joel Lundberg and PCO Brian Lasanen attempted to stop a vehicle on state land for a violation shortly after midnight. The vehicle failed to stop and a pursuit ensued. The COs pursued the vehicle from Gladwin County into Midland County where Midland Sheriff Deputies deployed stop sticks to stop the suspect vehicle. The vehicle was stopped, and the driver was arrested for OWI, felony flee and elude and felony drug charges. A passenger was also arrested on a felony warrant.

While traveling to Belle Isle, CO Ken Lowell and PCO Tim Rosochacki were passed by a vehicle travelling in excess of 100 mph on the expressway. PCO Rosochacki was able to make a traffic stop on the vehicle and enforcement action was taken for the speed and careless driving.

While patrolling an area lake, CO Ken Lowell and PCO Tim Rosochacki encountered an individual operating a boat with an expired registration. Upon making contact the driver stated that the boat belonged to his son and that he had sold him the boat last year. The COs contacted the son and he stated the boat was his and that he had failed to



register the vessel. Enforcement was taken for the expired registration and a warning was given for failing to transfer the vessel's title.

CO Ken Lowell reports that a poaching case from the 2013 deer season has been resolved. The suspect pled guilty to illegally killing a buck with a firearm at night during bow season. The suspect paid \$1,250 in fines and restitution and had his hunting privileges taken away for three years.

CO Quincy Gowenlock and PCO Paul Fox were patrolling the Saginaw River checking subjects fishing from shore. They encountered a subject fishing at Wickes Park and upon contact he advised he didn't have his fishing license on him. PCO Fox asked if he had purchased a license for the 2014 year and he said, "Yes". A subsequent check through Station 20 revealed the subject hadn't purchased a fishing license since 2011. A ticket was issued. While continuing their patrol in Wickes Park the COs came across a group of subjects fishing. As the COs pulled into the parking lot, one subject dropped his rod and reel and the others began to pack up. Contact was made and all four admitted to not having a license to fish. Tickets were issued.

CO Seth Rhodea was checking fishing spots in Sanilac County when he observed a subject getting ready to fish from shore. The CO sat back and watched the angler for a short time before making contact with him. Upon making contact, the angler tried to say he was just helping his son fish and didn't think he needed a license for that. CO Rhodea advised the angler that he had been watching him for a while and during that time he never tried to include his son while he was fishing. A ticket was then issued for fishing without a license.

CO Seth Rhodea responded to a complaint of ORVs being operated in town without the operators wearing helmets and other roadway violations. CO Rhodea was able to locate one of the ORVs sitting in a yard and waited down the street for the operator to come out on the road. A short time later, the ORV was being operated on the road without an ORV license, no helmet and several other violations. A stop was made and the operator was ticketed.

## **DISTRICT 7**

CO Cary Foster and PCO Justin Ulberg recently conducted a patrol at Grand Haven State Park. Seven persons were ticketed for possession of alcohol in the park or MIP violations. COs Greg Patten and BJ Goulette assisted in this patrol.

COs Greg Patten, Cary Foster and PCO Justin Ulberg conducted a patrol of Lake Michigan near Muskegon issuing one ticket and five warnings for marine violations. During the patrol, they were requested by the Lake Express Cross Lake Ferry to contact a pleasure boat continuing to block the travel path of the large vessel. Officers met with the boat operator to review proper navigational practices.

CO Greg Patten and Sgt. John Jurcich responded to a brush fire complaint in Muskegon County after fire departments requested police response due to firearms and past issues at the property. Michigan DNR fire equipment was also called to the scene to suppress a small fire that is suspicious in origin. The investigation continues at this time with this private land location continuing to remain a problem for area residents and law enforcement relating to illegal ORV use, firearms issues, slash disposal, illegal marijuana cultivation and noise.

CO Ivan Perez was requested to the scene of a DUI arrest by a local agency. CO Perez provided translation in Spanish to the suspect and officers using his language skills and in car computer to access a language translation website.

COs Dave Rodgers and PCO Justin Ulberg conducted evening patrols along the Grand River in Kent County. Numerous license checks were performed and one person was ticketed for concealing two undersized smallmouth bass in a minnow bucket inside the boat.

CO Mike McGee launched his patrol boat on a Cass County lake without a public access after being invited to use a private launch. CO McGee immediately observed two anglers spot his patrol boat and pull anchor and begin heading to shore. CO McGee contacted the pair and found that neither had valid fishing licenses. Both subjects were ticketed for fishing without a license.

CO Andy Bauer and Sgt. Zach Doss patrolled the St. Joseph River for shore fishing activity. During the patrol, contact was made with a subject who was fishing without a license and was collecting freshwater mussels. The law regarding freshwater mussels was explained and he was ticketed for fishing without a license. A second angler was located who was in possession of a small amount of marijuana and was fishing without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

## **DISTRICT 8**

CO Rich Nickols stopped at Muskrat Lake after the access site was closed to check for activity and saw there were two vehicles and a boat trailer left in the lot. CO Nickols could see a small campfire across the lake so he drove to the opposite side of the game area and hiked back in to the location of the fire. CO Nickols contacted four subjects who had set up camp and transported all their gear by boat. Two of the subjects were very intoxicated and one was under 21. A ticket was issued for camping in a closed area and the subjects were ordered to clean up the site and vacate first thing in the morning.

While checking fishing spots along the Grand River during the early morning hours, CO Rich Nickols observed a vehicle stopped in the middle of the street. After about 30 seconds, the vehicle took off and turned the wrong way down a one way street. As CO Nickols attempted to catch up with the vehicle, it accelerated rapidly and was travelling about 70 mph in a 35 mph zone. CO Nickols observed the vehicle travel completely

into the opposite lane. CO Nickols was able to catch up to it and followed it about a mile with lights and siren before it finally stopped. The driver was intoxicated and lodged for OWI third offense. During the investigation, CO Nickols learned the subject is due in court next Friday for sentencing on his second offense OWI.

CO Shane Webster and PCO Jon Busken got caught in a storm in Detroit while patrolling Belle Isle. With multiple calls for assistance by other agencies, the COs assisted in closing down portions of I-75 in order to move traffic around flooded areas.

CO Shane Webster and PCO Jon Busken made contact with four individuals as they landed their two canoes at a local State launch. The COs noted that neither of the vessels contained PFDs for the occupants. It was also discovered that one of the individuals had an outstanding warrant for Retail Fraud. The individual was placed under arrest and transported to the Jackson County Jail. The persons responsible for each canoe were issued tickets for the lack of PFDs.

During a marine patrol, CO Shane Webster and PCO Jon Busken observed two individuals aboard a PWC who appeared to be having difficulties staying on their machine. The COs kept an eye on the watercraft as they made other checks in the area and were able to observe both individuals personally operate the watercraft. During the observation the COs noted a second time that the machine made a quick turn and both occupants fell off the machine into the water. The COs made contact with the individuals and quickly noted the smell of intoxicating liquor. The COs also noted that both individuals had trouble speaking clearly, and neither were able to provide a boaters safety certificate. Sobriety tests were performed for each individual and it was found that both subjects had been operating the vessel while intoxicated at nearly twice the legal limit. Both subjects were transported and lodged in the Jackson County jail for operating a vessel while under the influence of intoxicating liquor.

CO Shane Webster and PCO Jon Busken stopped at a local access site along the Grand River to check several anglers who were night fishing. During the check, one of the anglers advised that she had left her fishing license at home. A check was made and it was confirmed that she had a valid fishing license; however, it was also revealed that she had an outstanding warrant in Lenawee County for failure to pay child support. The COs turned the subject over to a Lenawee County deputy who transported her to the Lenawee County jail.

CO Todd Thorn worked the third shift on Belle Isle the night that severe flooding occurred in the Greater Detroit area. On his way to the island, CO Thorn spotted a white SUV in the ditch with water up to the windows of the vehicle and its lights still on. A truck had stopped and a woman who was soaking wet was standing outside near the truck in the rain. CO Thorn stopped and found that the woman's vehicle had hydroplaned into the ditch after hitting a large puddle on the highway. The woman had been stuck in her car until she was able to climb out of her window. CO Thorn assisted by retrieving her purse and other belongings out of the vehicle, turning it off, and

transporting her to her residence as there were no wreckers or other emergency vehicles able to get to the area.

COs Danny Walzak and Todd Thorn assisted MSP on Monday night in Detroit by searching for people stranded in vehicles along I-75. The highway was closed at many locations and persons in vehicles were attempting to drive through large puddles on the highway where they would eventually flood their engines and become stranded. Seven contacts with stranded individuals were made, including assisting one woman by pushing her vehicle off of the highway onto the shoulder as it had quit running while in the right hand lane.

CO Jeff Goss was on his way back from working a third shift on Belle Isle when he was passed by a vehicle traveling at a very high rate of speed. CO Goss observed as the vehicle was weaving in and out of traffic cutting off vehicles and passing on the right. The vehicle was traveling at speeds over 90 mph when a stop was initiated. The driver was ticketed for careless driving.

## **DISTRICT 9**

CO Brandon Kieft received a tip that a subject was putting up his waterfowl blind over two weeks early on a busy Oakland County lake. CO Kieft used a kayak to access the area and take pictures of the blind. This same blind had been a problem for CO Kieft a few years earlier and he knew the subject it belonged to. CO Kieft made contact and questioned him about the activity. He was eventually ticketed for early placement of a waterfowl blind.

CO Brandon Kieft finalized a littering case involving trash bags and marijuana plants that were dumped near the Clinton River in Waterford Township. Items located in the trash by PCO A.J. Sutzko led to a subject in the West Bloomfield area. After a few interviews, CO Kieft received a confession from the subject. He was ordered to clean up all the trash bags and the subject was ticketed for littering.

CO Brandon Kieft conducted a traffic stop in the City of Detroit for a vehicle that "cut off" another motorist. After running the plate information, CO Kieft recognized that the registration on the vehicle expired in July of 2013. The driver was also unable to produce any proof of insurance and was operating on a suspended license due to previous alcohol-related arrests. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel and PCO Brad Bellville checked an angler at the Blossom Heath Fishing Pier who was using three fishing poles. On further inspection, PCO Bellville located a spool of fishing line hidden next to the bench that had been baited and cast out for a fourth line. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel and PCO Brad Bellville were checking shore anglers at Lake St. Clair Metro Park after dark. PCO Bellville heard an angler yell something in his direction. PCO Bellville observed a subject standing on a fishing dock with a large net in hand who appeared to be netting a fish. PCO Bellville went over to assist and quickly

realized that the subject was not trying to net a fish, but was trying to net his fishing partner who had fallen off the end of the dock. Bellville assisted in hoisting the man from the water.

A subject who was ticketed by CO Kris Kiel, and PCOs David Schaumburger and Chris Knights for operating an illegal charter boat, for the second time, pled guilty in District Court this week. The subject was sentenced to pay a total of \$1,400 in fines and costs including restitution for the deposit put down on the charter. The boat that had been used on the illegal charter had been seized and ordered returned to its rightful owner.

COs Kris Kiel, Ben Lasher and PCO Brad Bellville worked marine patrol on the St. Clair River for the annual float down from Fort Gratiot Lighthouse Park to Chrysler Beach. The COs located three young juveniles in an inflatable raft that had been separated from their parents. The children were assisted into the patrol vessel and the COs eventually located a very relieved parent on shore about half a mile downstream from where the children were picked up. On another incident the COs were flagged down to assist a very intoxicated female who had fallen off her raft and was not wearing a life preserver. While trying to maneuver through multiple tubers to assist her, the COs witnessed the female let go of her raft and submerge twice. They arrived in time to grab her arm and hoist her into the patrol vessel; she was taken to shore. The third incident involved the COs observing a capsized kayaker not wearing a life preserver attempting to get back into his half submerged vessel. While pulling up to assist the subject, the COs quickly realized that the subject was extremely intoxicated and they observed him submerge twice swallowing lots of water. The COs successfully hoisted the man and his kayak into the patrol boat. The subject was taken to shore, ending his trip early.

While on patrol in St. Clair County CO Ben Lasher was almost struck head on by a vehicle that was passing in the "no passing" zone on Marine City Highway. CO Lasher swerved onto the shoulder of the roadway to avoid being struck by the vehicle. CO Lasher then turned around on the suspect vehicle and made a traffic stop. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Ken Kovach, Todd Szyska, and PCOs Chris Knights and Jason Becker attended a bench trial for a subject who was in possession of an overlimit of walleye. The subject's defense was that he was not over his limit, due to the fact that one of the fish was from a prior day. The only problem was, as per law, the fish was not processed, smoked, canned, jarred, etc. The subject pled guilty.

## **BELLE ISLE**

Record rainfalls in the Detroit Metropolitan area caused the flooding of all area expressways and a significant percentage of surface streets. Motorists travelling the expressways would either misjudge the depth of the water under overpasses and get stranded or find themselves trapped by the sheer number of vehicles coming to a halt at a flooded portion of an expressway. Working a midnight shift on Belle Isle on the day of the storms, COs Todd Thorn and Dan Walzak were requested to assist the MSP on the

area freeways. The COs were tasked with patrolling I-75 from East Jefferson Avenue to Eight Mile Road to monitor flooding and assist stranded motorists.

CO Mark Ennett worked a busy Saturday afternoon shift on Belle Isle. One minor and common incident was a plastic trash can that had been used for hot coals. The resulting fire burned the can to the ground. It was reported to CO Ennett, and he simply put it out with water from a nearby pond.

COs Lacelle Rabon, Mark Ennett, Ben Lasher, Kris Kiel, Todd Szyska, Mike Drexler, and PCO Brian Bellville worked the Belle Isle Open House. The event was a great success and many contacts were made while working the hunter safety laser shot trailer, recruitment table, and various watercraft, and vehicles on display for the public. Initially the crowd was light, but as the day got warmer the crowd activity grew. The event was successful with an enjoyable atmosphere.

While working Belle Isle COs Todd Szyska and Jason Smith assisted MSP with a report of shots fired from the Fishing Pier near the Coast Guard Station. Units arrived on scene and secured the pier, and canvassed the island looking for the suspect vehicle described to the trooper. A possible vehicle matching the description was found at the Scott Fountain, but was later found to be not involved in the incident.

CO Todd Szyska assisted MSP troopers in cleaning up trash around the children's play area this weekend on Belle Isle. Many comments came from the parents who were very happy to see law enforcement hard at work.

COs Todd Szyska and Jason Smith responded to complaints of traffic blockage near the beach area due to the "Once Around" long board tournament. Working along with Parks Division a solution to blockage was found. All vehicles parked in the moving lane were moved and orange barrels were placed so that the participants could have a loading/unloading area to get to the event.

While patrolling Belle Isle and Milliken State Park, COs Larn R. Strawn and Al Schwiderson contacted several groups of people entering the state parks after the posted closed hours. Several warnings were issued for the land use violations while the COs made arrests of several of the persons for nine separate outstanding warrants in multiple jurisdictions.

Sgt. Bahlau patrolled Belle Isle and assisted in locating a lost child and returning her to her parent.

While on Belle Isle, CO Rich Nickols was dispatched to a possible dumpster fire near the Casino. A fire was located, but it was the remains of a trash can that someone had dumped hot coals into. Detroit Fire Department responded to the scene and extinguished the fire, but the trash can was a total loss.

CO Shane Webster and PCO Jon Busken checked several anglers while patrolling Belle Isle. During contact with one subject, PCO Busken noted two bass that appeared to be undersized in the angler's bucket. Upon measuring the two bass, it was found that one was 11.5 inches, and the other was 13 inches. The angler was educated on the legal size limit of 14 inches and a ticket was issued.